

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A thin battery comprising:

a battery module consisting essentially of a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a separator; and

an outer case for housing the battery module, the outer case comprising:

a first case body comprising connection walls;

a second case body comprising connection walls, wherein the connection walls of the first case body and second case body connect the first case body and the second case body to each other on outer circumferential portions;

~~either one selected from the first case body and the second case body~~ comprising:

a dish-shaped case element A with a housing portion swelling from one surface; and

a reinforcing frame fixed to the dish-shaped case element A along a circumference of a swelling wall of the housing portion,

the second case body comprising a plate-shaped case element B,

wherein the reinforcing frame is a plastic molding, and the case element A is a press-formed product made of a metal thin plate formed so as to be integrated with the reinforcing frame,

wherein the connecting walls are made of a metal thin plate and the battery module is housed directly within the housing portion, and sealed in the outer case by attaching the connection walls of the first case body to the connection walls of the second case body.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The thin battery according to claim 1, further comprising a mounting region formed on an outer surface of the connection wall adjacent to the swelling wall of the housing portion, wherein the mounting region comprises a control module for the battery module and a cover for protecting the control module.

4. (Original) The thin battery according to claim 3, wherein the control module comprises a protection circuit, output terminals, and input terminals, and

a pair of the input terminals of the control module are connected to be fixed to a positive tab and a negative tab of the battery module led to the mounting region, whereby the control module is fixed to the mounting region.

5. (Original) The thin battery according to claim 3, wherein the outer case is formed in a rectangular card shape, the mounting region is provided on one side of the outer case, the cover comprises a principal plane wall covering an outer surface of the control module and a pair of leg chips projecting from both ends of the principal plane wall, and terminal windows for exposing the output terminals of the control module are opened in the principal plane wall.

6. (Original) The thin battery according to claim 1, further comprising a concave portion for preventing reverse insertion further is formed on one side of the outer case, wherein the concave portion is engaged with a convex portion for preventing reverse insertion provided in a battery insertion portion of an apparatus in which the battery is to be mounted.

7. (Original) The thin battery according to claim 1, further comprising a concave portion for preventing dropping formed on one side of the outer case, wherein the concave portion is engaged with the convex portion for preventing dropping provided in an apparatus in which the battery is to be mounted.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a thin battery comprising a battery module consisting essentially of a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a separator and an outer case for housing the battery module,

the outer case comprising a first case body and a second case body comprising connection walls for connecting the first case body and the second case body to each other on outer circumferential portions,

~~either one selected from the first case body and the second case body comprises comprising~~ a dish-shaped case element A with a housing portion swelling from one surface and a reinforcing frame fixed to the ~~disk~~ dish-shaped case element A along a circumference of a swelling wall of the housing portion,

the second case body comprising a plate-shaped case element B.

wherein the reinforcing frame is a plastic molding, the case element A is a press-formed product made of a metal thin plate, the case element A is formed so as to be integrated with the reinforcing frame, and the connecting walls are made of a metal thin plate,

the battery module is housed directly within the housing portion, and the battery module is sealed in the outer case by attaching the connection walls of the first case body to the connection walls of the second case body.